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CLAIMS

1. A method of using a system with at least one of audio, image, and a video comprising a plurality of frames comprising the steps of:

 (a) providing a usage preferences description where said usage preference description includes at least one of a browsing preferences description, a filtering preferences description, a search preferences description, and a device preferences description where,

  (i) said browsing preferences description relates to a user's viewing preferences;

  (ii) said filtering and search preferences descriptions relate to at least one of (1) content preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video, (2) classification preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video, (3) keyword preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video, and (4) creation preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video; and

  (iii) said device preferences description relates to user's preferences regarding presentation characteristics;

 (b) providing a usage history description where said usage history description includes at least one of a browsing history description, a filtering history description, a search history description,

and a device usage history description
where,

(i)   said browsing history description
relates to a user's viewing history;

5   (ii)   said filtering and search history
descriptions relate to at least one
of (1) content usage history of said
at least one of audio, image, and
video, (2) classification usage

10   history of said at least one of
audio, image, and video, (3) keyword
usage history of said at least one
of audio, image, and video, and (4)
creation usage history of said at

15   least one of audio, image, and
video; and

(iii)   said device usage history
description relates to user's
history regarding presentation

20   characteristics;

(c)   updating said usage preferences
description based on the content of said
usage history description.

25   2.   The method of claim 1 further comprising
storing said usage preferences description on a removable
storage device.

3.   The method of claim 1 wherein said usage
30   preferences description includes at least two of said
browsing preferences description, said filtering
preferences description, said search preferences
description, and said device preferences description.

35   4.   The method of claim 3 wherein said usage
preferences description includes said browsing
preferences description, said filtering preferences

description, said search preferences description, and said device preferences description.

5.   The method of claim 3 wherein said usage preferences description includes at least said browsing preferences description, said filtering preferences description, and said search preferences description.

6.   The method of claim 3 wherein said usage preferences description includes at least said browsing preferences description, and said device preferences description.

7.   The method of claim 3 wherein said usage preferences description includes at least said filtering preferences description, said search preferences description, and said device preferences description.

8.   A method of using a system with at least one of audio, image, and a video comprising a plurality of frames comprising the steps of:
          (a)   providing a usage preferences description where said usage preference description includes at least one of a browsing preferences description, a filtering preferences description, a search preferences description, and a device preferences description where,
               (i)   said browsing preferences description relates to a user's viewing preferences;
               (ii)   said filtering and search preferences descriptions relate to at least one of (1) content preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video, (2) classification preferences of said

at least one of audio, image, and video, (3) keyword preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video, and (4) creation preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video; and

(iii) said device preferences description relates to user's preferences regarding presentation characteristics;

(b) providing a usage history description where said usage history description includes at least one of a browsing history description, a filtering history description, a search history description, and a device usage history description where,

(i) said browsing history description relates to a user's viewing history;

(ii) said filtering and search history descriptions relate to at least one of (1) content usage history of said at least one of audio, image, and video, (2) classification usage history of said at least one of audio, image, and video, (3) keyword usage history of said at least one of audio, image, and video, and (4) creation usage history of said at least one of audio, image, and video; and

(iii) said device usage history description relates to user's history regarding presentation characteristics;

(c) maintaining said usage preferences description separate from said usage history description; and

(d) storing said usage preferences description on a removable storage device.

9. The method of claim 8, further comprising updating said usage preferences description based on the content of said usage history description.

10. The method of claim 8 wherein said usage preferences description includes at least two of said browsing preferences description, said filtering preferences description, said search preferences description, and said device preferences description.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein said usage preferences description includes said browsing preferences description, said filtering preferences description, said search preferences description, and said device preferences description.

12. The method of claim 10 wherein said usage preferences description includes at least said browsing preferences description, said filtering preferences description, and said search preferences description.

13. The method of claim 10 wherein said usage preferences description includes at least said browsing preferences description, and said device preferences description.

14. The method of claim 10 wherein said usage preferences description includes at least said filtering preferences description, said search preferences description, and said device preferences description.

15. A method of using a system with at least one of audio, image, and a video comprising a plurality of frames comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a plurality of usage preferences descriptions where each of said usage preference descriptions includes at least one of a browsing preferences description, a filtering preferences description, a search preferences description, and a device preferences description where,

  (i) said browsing preferences description relates to a user's viewing preferences;

  (ii) said filtering and search preferences descriptions relate to at least one of (1) content preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video, (2) classification preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video, (3) keyword preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video, and (4) creation preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video; and

  (iii) said device preferences description relates to user's preferences regarding presentation characteristics;

(b) providing a plurality of usage history descriptions where each of said usage history descriptions includes at least one of a browsing history description, a filtering history description, a search history description, and a device usage history description where,

        (i)   said browsing history description relates to a user's viewing history;

        (ii)   said filtering and search history descriptions relate to at least one of (1) content usage history of said at least one of audio, image, and video, (2) classification usage history of said at least one of audio, image, and video, (3) keyword usage history of said at least one of audio, image, and video, and (4) creation usage history of said at least one of audio, image, and video; and

        (iii)   said device usage history description relates to user's history regarding presentation characteristics;

   (c)   providing a user identification description which identifies a corresponding set of at least one of said usage preference descriptions and at least one of said usage history descriptions.

16.   The method of claim 15 wherein said user identification description identifies a corresponding set of at least two of said usage preference descriptions and at least two of said usage history descriptions.

17.   The method of claim 15 wherein said system includes multiple user identification descriptions.

18.   The method of claim 17 wherein each of said multiple user identification descriptions identifies a different corresponding set of at least one of said usage preference descriptions and at least one of said usage history descriptions.

19.   The method of claim 17 wherein each of
said multiple user identification descriptions identifies
an overlapping set of at least one of said usage
preference descriptions and at least one of said usage
5   history descriptions.

20.   The method of claim 15 wherein said user
identification description is included within said usage
preference descriptions and said usage history
10   descriptions.

21.   The method of claim 15 wherein said usage
preferences description is separate from said usage
history description, and storing said usage preferences
15   description on a removable storage device.

22.   The method of claim 15, further comprising
updating said usage preferences description based on the
content of said usage history description.
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23.   The method of claim 15 wherein said usage
preferences description includes at least two of said
browsing preferences description, said filtering
preferences description, said search preferences
25   description, and said device preferences description.

24.   The method of claim 23 wherein said usage
preferences description includes said browsing
preferences description, said filtering preferences
30   description, said search preferences description, and
said device preferences description.

25.   The method of claim 23 wherein said usage
preferences description includes at least said browsing
35   preferences description, said filtering preferences
description, and said search preferences description.

26. The method of claim 23 wherein said usage preferences description includes at least said browsing preferences description, and said device preferences description.

27. The method of claim 23 wherein said usage preferences description includes at least said filtering preferences description, said search preferences description, and said device preferences description.

28. A method of using a system with at least one of audio, image, and a video comprising a plurality of frames comprising the steps of:

    (a) providing a plurality of usage preferences descriptions where each of said usage preference descriptions includes at least one of a browsing preferences description, a filtering preferences description, a search preferences description, and a device preferences description where,

        (i) said browsing preferences description relates to a user's viewing preferences;

        (ii) said filtering and search preferences descriptions relate to at least one of (1) content preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video, (2) classification preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video, (3) keyword preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video, and (4) creation preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video; and

        (iii) said device preferences description relates to user's preferences

regarding presentation characteristics;

(b) providing a first user identification description which identifies a particular user of at least one of said usage preference descriptions where said usage preference description is at least one of created by said user by interaction with said system and provided by said user to said system;

(c) providing a second user identification description which identifies a different particular user of at least one of said usage preference description where said usage preference description is at least one of created by said different user by interaction with said system and provided by said different user to said system; and

(d) wherein said first user identification description and its associated at least one of said usage preference description is disabled prior to said different user using his associated said usage preference description.

29. The method of claim 28 wherein said system includes multiple user identification descriptions.

30. The method of claim 28 wherein said usage preferences description includes at least two of said browsing preferences description, said filtering preferences description, said search preferences description, and said device preferences description.

31. The method of claim 30 wherein said usage preferences description includes said browsing preferences description, said filtering preferences

description, said search preferences description, and said device preferences description.

32. The method of claim 30 wherein said usage
5 preferences description includes at least said browsing preferences description, said filtering preferences description, and said search preferences description.

33. The method of claim 30 wherein said usage
10 preferences description includes at least said browsing preferences description, and said device preferences description.

34. The method of claim 30 wherein said usage
15 preferences description includes at least said filtering preferences description, said search preferences description, and said device preferences description.

35. A method of using a system with at least
20 one of audio, image, and a video comprising a plurality of frames comprising the steps of:
   (a) providing a usage preferences description where said usage preference descriptions includes at least one of a browsing
25 preferences description, a filtering preferences description, a search preferences description, and a device preferences description where,
   (i) said browsing preferences
30 description relates to a user's viewing preferences;
   (ii) said filtering and search preferences descriptions relate to at least one of (1) content
35 preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video, (2) classification preferences of said

at least one of audio, image, and video, (3) keyword preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video, and (4) creation

5   preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video; and

    (iii)   said device preferences description relates to user's preferences regarding presentation

10   characteristics;

    (b)   providing a usage history descriptions where said usage history descriptions includes at least one of a browsing history description, a filtering history

15   description, a search history description, and a device usage history description where,

    (i)   said browsing history description relates to a user's viewing history;

20   (ii)   said filtering and search history descriptions relate to at least one of (1) content usage history of said at least one of audio, image, and video, (2) classification usage

25   history of said at least one of audio, image, and video, (3) keyword usage history of said at least one of audio, image, and video, and (4) creation usage history of said at

30   least one of audio, image, and video; and

    (iii)   said device usage history description relates to user's history regarding presentation

35   characteristics;

    (c)   supplementing the data contained in said usage history description in response to

said user interacting with said system; and

    (d)   providing said data contained in said usage history description to a party other than said user, which in response thereto, provides advertising to said system.

36.   The method of claim 35 wherein demographic data is also provided to said party other than said user.

37.   The method of claim 35 wherein said usage preferences description includes at least two of said browsing preferences description, said filtering preferences description, said search preferences description, and said device preferences description.

38.   The method of claim 37 wherein said usage preferences description includes said browsing preferences description, said filtering preferences description, said search preferences description, and said device preferences description.

39.   The method of claim 37 wherein said usage preferences description includes at least said browsing preferences description, said filtering preferences description, and said search preferences description.

40.   The method of claim 37 wherein said usage preferences description includes at least said browsing preferences description, and said device preferences description.

41.   The method of claim 37 wherein said usage preferences description includes at least said filtering preferences description, said search preferences description, and said device preferences description.

42. A method of using a system with at least one of audio, image, and a video comprising a plurality of frames comprising the steps of:

    (a)   providing a usage preferences description where said usage preference description includes at least one of a browsing preferences description, a filtering preferences description, a search preferences description, and a device preferences description where,

        (i)   said browsing preferences description relates to a user's viewing preferences;

        (ii)   said filtering and search preferences descriptions relate to at least one of (1) content preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video, (2) classification preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video, (3) keyword preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video, and (4) creation preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video; and

        (iii)   said device preferences description relates to user's preferences regarding presentation characteristics;

    (b)   providing a usage history description where said usage history description includes at least one of a browsing history description, a filtering history description, a search history description, and a device usage history description where,

(i) said browsing history description relates to a user's viewing history;

(ii) said filtering and search history descriptions relate to at least one of (1) content usage history of said at least one of audio, image, and video, (2) classification usage history of said at least one of audio, image, and video, (3) keyword usage history of said at least one of audio, image, and video, and (4) creation usage history of said at least one of audio, image, and video; and

(iii) said device usage history description relates to user's history regarding presentation characteristics;

(c) selectively updating said usage preferences description based on the content of said usage history description.

43. The method of claim 42 wherein said selective updating is based upon said a response from said user.

44. The method of claim 42 wherein said selective updating is based upon at least one setting within at least one of said usage preferences description and said usage history description.

45. The method of claim 44 wherein said selective updating is based upon at least one setting within said usage preferences description.

46.   A method of using a system with at least one of audio, image, and a video comprising a plurality of frames comprising the steps of:

(a)   providing a usage preferences descriptions where said usage preference descriptions includes a browsing preferences description, a filtering preferences description and a search preferences description, and a device preferences description where,

    (i)   said browsing preferences description relates to a user's viewing preferences;

    (ii)   said filtering and search preferences descriptions relate to at least two of (1) content preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video, (2) classification preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video, (3) keyword preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video, and (4) creation preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video; and

    (iii)   said device preferences description relates to user's preferences regarding presentation characteristics;

(b)   selecting said at least one of audio, image, and a video based upon said usage preferences description.

47.   The method of claim 46 further comprising:

(a)   providing a usage history description where said usage history description includes at least one of a browsing

history description, a filtering history description, a search history description, and a device usage history description where,

5   (i)   said browsing history description relates to a user's viewing history;

    (ii)   said filtering and search history descriptions relate to at least one of (1) content usage history of said

10   at least one of audio, image, and video, (2) classification usage history of said at least one of audio, image, and video, (3) keyword usage history of said at least one

15   of audio, image, and video, and (4) creation usage history of said at least one of audio, image, and video; and

    (iii) said device usage history

20   description relates to user's history regarding presentation characteristics.

48. The method of claim 47 wherein said usage preferences description includes at least two of said browsing preferences description, said filtering preferences description, said search preferences description, and said device preferences description.

49. The method of claim 48 wherein said usage preferences description includes said browsing preferences description, said filtering preferences description, said search preferences description, and said device preferences description.

50. The method of claim 48 wherein said usage preferences description includes at least said browsing preferences description, said filtering preferences description, and said search preferences description.

51. The method of claim 48 wherein said usage preferences description includes at least said browsing preferences description, and said device preferences description.

52. The method of claim 48 wherein said usage preferences description includes at least said filtering preferences description, said search preferences description, and said device preferences description.

53. A method of using a system with at least one of audio, image, and a video comprising a plurality of frames comprising the steps of:
   (a) providing a usage preferences description where said usage preference description includes at least a device preferences description that relates to user's preferences regarding presentation characteristics including at least one of;

(i)   different settings based on the type
        of content being presented;

(ii)   different settings based on the time
        of content presentation;

(iii)   different settings based on which
        video presentation device is being
        used;

(iv)   different settings based on which
        audio presentation device is being
        used;

(b)   modifying said settings of said at least
        one of audio, image, and a video based
        upon said usage preferences description.

54.   The method of claim 53 wherein said type
of content includes at least one of romance, drama,
action, and violence.

55.   The method of claim 53 wherein said time
of content presentation includes at least one of morning,
weekend, evening, afternoon, and weekday.

56.   The method of claim 53 wherein said audio
presentation device includes stereo sound, mono sound,
surround sound, AC-3, and Dolby Digital.

57.   The method of claim 53 further comprising

(a)   providing a usage history description
        where said usage history description
        includes at least one of a browsing
        history description, a filtering history
        description, a search history description,
        and a device usage history description
        where,

(i)   said browsing history description
        relates to a user's viewing history;

(ii)   said filtering and search history descriptions relate to at least one of (1) content usage history of said at least one of audio, image, and video, (2) classification usage history of said at least one of audio, image, and video, (3) keyword usage history of said at least one of audio, image, and video, and (4) creation usage history of said at least one of audio, image, and video; and

(iii)   said device usage history relates to user's history regarding presentation characteristics;

(b)   updating said usage preferences description based on the content of said usage history description.

58. A method of using a system with at least one of audio, image, and a video comprising a plurality of frames comprising the steps of:

(a)   providing a usage preferences description where said usage preference description includes at least one of a browsing preferences description, a filtering preferences description, a search preferences description, and a device preferences description where,

(i)   said browsing preferences description relates to a user's viewing preferences;

(ii)   said filtering and search preferences descriptions relate to at least one of (1) content preferences of said at least one of audio, image, and video, (2)

classification preferences of said
at least one of audio, image, and
video, (3) keyword preferences of
said at least one of audio, image,

5   and video, and (4) creation
preferences of said at least one of
audio, image, and video; and

(iii)   said device preferences description
relates to user's preferences

10   regarding presentation
characteristics;

(b)   providing a usage history description
where said usage history description
includes at least one of a browsing

15   history description, a filtering history
description, a search history description,
and a device usage history description
where,

(i)   said browsing history description

20   relates to a user's viewing history;

(ii)   said filtering and search history
descriptions relate to at least one
of (1) content usage history of said
at least one of audio, image, and

25   video, (2) classification usage
history of said at least one of
audio, image, and video, (3) keyword
usage history of said at least one
of audio, image, and video, and (4)

30   creation usage history of said at
least one of audio, image, and
video; and

(iii)   said device usage history
description relates to user's

35   history regarding presentation
characteristics;

(c) incorporating within said usage history
description at least one of the duration
that a particular program has been viewed
for a plurality of programs and the
5   duration that a particular program has
been viewed in relation to the total
duration of said program for a plurality
of said programs.

10   59. The method of claim 58, further comprising
updating said usage preferences description based, at
least in part, on said duration.

            60. The method of claim 58, further comprising
15   storing said usage preferences description on a removable
storage device.

            61. The method of claim 58 wherein said usage
preferences description includes at least two of said
20   browsing preferences description, said filtering
preferences description, said search preferences
description, and said device preferences description.

            62. The method of claim 61 wherein said usage
25   preferences description includes said browsing
preferences description, said filtering preferences
description, said search preferences description, and
said device preferences description.

30   63. The method of claim 61 wherein said usage
preferences description includes at least said browsing
preferences description, said filtering preferences
description, and said search preferences description.

35   64. The method of claim 61 wherein said usage
preferences description includes at least said browsing

preferences description, and said device preferences
description.

65.   The method of claim 61 wherein said usage
preferences description includes at least said filtering
preferences description, said search preferences
description, and said device preferences description.

66.   A method of using a system with at least
one of audio, image, and a video comprising a plurality
of frames comprising the steps of:

(a)   providing a plurality of usage preferences
descriptions where each of said usage
preference descriptions includes at least
one of a browsing preferences description,
a filtering preferences description, a
search preferences description, and a
device preferences description where,

(i)   said browsing preferences
description relates to a user's
viewing preferences;

(ii)   said filtering and search
preferences descriptions relate to
at least one of (1) content
preferences of said at least one of
audio, image, and video, (2)
classification preferences of said
at least one of audio, image, and
video, (3) keyword preferences of
said at least one of audio, image,
and video, and (4) creation
preferences of said at least one of
audio, image, and video; and

(iii)   said device preferences description
relates to user's preferences
regarding presentation
characteristics; and

(b)   providing a plurality of user
        identification descriptions, each of which
        identifies at least one of said usage
        preference descriptions.

67.   The method of claim 66 wherein said user
identification description identifies a corresponding set
of at least two of said usage preference descriptions.

68.   The method of claim 66 wherein each of
said multiple user identification descriptions identifies
an overlapping set of at least one of said usage

preferences description, and said device preferences
description.

69 ~~74~~.   The method of claim 66 wherein said usage
5   preferences description includes at least said filtering
preferences description, said search preferences
description, and said device preferences description.

70 ~~75~~.   A method of using a system with at least
10   one of audio, image, and a video comprising a plurality
of frames comprising the steps of:

> (a)   providing a usage preferences description
> where said usage preference descriptions
> includes at least one of a browsing
15   preferences description, a filtering
> preferences description, a search
> preferences description, and a device
> preferences description where,
>> (i)   said browsing preferences
20   description relates to a user's
>> viewing preferences;
>> (ii)   said filtering and search
>> preferences descriptions relate to
>> at least one of (1) content
25   preferences of said at least one of
>> audio, image, and video, (2)
>> classification preferences of said
>> at least one of audio, image, and
>> video, (3) keyword preferences of
30   said at least one of audio, image,
>> and video, and (4) creation
>> preferences of said at least one of
>> audio, image, and video; and
>> (iii)   said device preferences description
35   relates to user's preferences
>> regarding presentation
>> characteristics; and

(b)   providing said data contained in said usage preferences description to a party other than said user, which in response thereto, provides a summary of said at least one of said audio, image, and video to said system.

71 ~~76~~. The method of claim ~~75~~ 70 wherein demographic data is also provided to said party other than said user.

72 ~~77~~. The method of claim ~~75~~ 70 wherein said usage preferences description includes at least two of said browsing preferences description, said filtering preferences description, said search preferences description, and said device preferences description.

73 ~~78~~. The method of claim ~~75~~ 70 wherein said usage preferences description includes said browsing preferences description, said filtering preferences description, said search preferences description, and said device preferences description.

74 ~~79~~. The method of claim ~~75~~ 70 wherein said usage preferences description includes at least said browsing preferences description, said filtering preferences description, and said search preferences description.

75 ~~80~~. The method of claim ~~75~~ 70 wherein said usage preferences description includes at least said browsing preferences description, and said device preferences description.

76 ~~81~~. The method of claim ~~75~~ 70 wherein said usage preferences description includes at least said filtering preferences description, said search preferences description, and said device preferences description.

77 22.   A method of using a system with at least
one of audio, image, and a video comprising a plurality
of frames comprising the step of:

    (a)   providing a plurality of usage preferences
5   descriptions, where each of said usage
               preference descriptions is associated with
               a different season of the year.

78 23.   The method of claim 77 wherein said
10 seasons include at least two of football season, baseball
season, football season, and hockey season.

79 24.   The method of claim 77 wherein said
seasons include at least two of winter, spring, summer,
15 and fall.